

# FODC News Bulletin



## Visitors from the USA.

At the end of May we were pleased to welcome visitors to the Cemetery from Michigan, USA.

Bryan Thompson emigrated to Canada in 1950 with his family and comes back to Darwen from time to time. Bryan and his wife Jean came to the cemetery with a relative Ann Stokes to visit his grandparents, William and Sarah Thompson, and other relatives graves.

Bryan was also interested in locating his mother's relatives graves, the Grime family, but did not have the grave number or their dates of birth.

He knew that his Great Uncle, Stuart Hargreaves had died in the First World War. We were able to tell him the location of the war grave as all details of the War Graves in the cemetery are on our website [www.darwencemetery.org.uk](http://www.darwencemetery.org.uk).

He was very pleased to find that the war grave of his great uncle had been adopted by Terry and Pat Garsden and was pleased to see it was neat and tidy. He was dismayed to find that the Grime family memorial, a black marble vase with the inscriptions of his family was no longer on the grave. This information was later passed to Terry and he said he would have a search round for it. He eventually found it hidden in the bushes. He retrieved it, and after making a small repair and cleaning it up has put it back in situ. Bryan and his family were thrilled to hear the news and are looking forward to their next trip to Darwen and meeting up with Terry and Pat.



## Our Dry Stone Wall is nearly Ready!



Mick Walsh at the start of the project.



The seat just before it is capped.

## FRIENDS OF DARWEN CEMETERY



### BAT WALK

Friday 9<sup>TH</sup> September at 7.30pm

Meet at **Nature Memorial Garden,**

**Darwen Western Cemetery, off Lark Street, Darwen.**

**FREE** session from FODC and East Lancashire Bat Group



Please wear sensible footwear and you may wish to bring a torch. Children should be accompanied by an adult

Further information from Rosemary Jackson, FODC Secretary  
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## FODC become a Registered Charity

**CHARITY COMMISSION**

We are pleased to announce that we are now a Registered Charity (No 1142815). To comply with charity law we have changed the wording of our Objectives in our Constitution.

1. To secure the conservation, maintenance, operation and management of Darwen Cemetery and its historic buildings, memorials, tombs and other historic physical features for the public benefit.
2. To secure the conservation and management of the historic landscape, plants and natural life at Darwen Cemetery for the public benefit.
3. To advance the education of the public by making available materials for the study of the lives and significance of those buried in Darwen Cemetery and their monuments by collecting, storing and making available information on the genealogies, conditions and life styles of the inhabitants of Darwen and related areas through the ages by managing and displaying material to demonstrate issues related to the history of Darwen Cemetery and those buried in it and by preparing educational activities for schools, colleges, universities and other bodies who wish to visit the cemetery in connection with their programmes, courses and syllabuses.
4. To secure the proper conservation, management and care of the books of remembrance, historic burial records, cremation records and other archives relating to the Darwen Cemetery for the public benefit.
5. For the benefit of the public develop the site in partnership with Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council as a cultural, heritage centre of excellence engaging and including all members of the community.
6. To do all such other lawful things as are necessary to the attainment of the above objects or any of the above objects.

As well as improving our legal standing we also hope to be able to access new funding streams.



Visit: [www.darwencemetery.org.uk](http://www.darwencemetery.org.uk)